

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for forming a trench with a buried plate, which comprises:

forming a trench in a substrate, the trench having a sidewall, an upper region, and a lower region;

forming ~~[[an]]~~ a substantially undoped silicon oxide layer on the trench sidewall in the upper and lower regions of the trench;

forming a doped silicate glass fill in the upper and lower regions of the trench;

removing the doped silicate glass fill and the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer from the upper region of the trench with an etching process, the silicate glass being completely removed through the underlying undoped silicon oxide; and

increasing temperature to diffuse dopant from the doped silicate glass fill into the substrate through the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer and to form a buried plate in the substrate in the lower region of the trench.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein:

the doping of the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer is less than  $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ; and

the doping of the doped silicate glass fill is greater than  $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

Claim 3 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises utilizing at least one of the group consisting of boron, phosphorous, and arsenic for the doping of the doped silicate glass fill.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises carrying out the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer forming step by depositing the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer in an integrated

processing step immediately prior to forming the doped silicate glass fill.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises depositing the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer in an integrated processing step immediately prior to the doped silicate glass fill.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises carrying out the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer forming step by forming the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer to a thickness between 0.1 and 25 nm.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises:

filling the trench having the doped silicate glass fill with varnish;

removing the varnish in the upper region of the trench;

removing the doped silicate glass fill and the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer in the upper region of the trench;

removing remaining varnish from the trench;

depositing an oxide cover layer and then increasing  
temperature to diffuse dopant into the substrate; and

removing the oxide cover layer, the doped silicate glass  
fill, and the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1,  
which further comprises:

filling the trench having the doped silicate glass fill with  
varnish;

removing the varnish in the upper region of the trench;

removing the doped silicate glass fill and the substantially  
undoped silicon oxide layer in the upper region of the  
trench;

removing remaining varnish from the trench;

depositing an oxide cover layer and then increasing  
temperature to diffuse dopant into the substrate; and

removing the oxide cover layer, and removing the doped silicate glass fill and the substantially undoped silicon oxide layer from the lower region of the trench.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises:

filling the trench having the doped silicate glass fill with a sacrificial silicon material;

removing the sacrificial silicon material, the doped silicate glass fill, and the undoped silicon oxide layer in the upper region of the trench;

subsequently increasing temperature to diffuse dopant into the substrate;

depositing an insulation trench layer in the upper region of the trench; and

removing the sacrificial silicon material, the doped silicate glass fill, and the undoped silicon oxide layer from the lower region of the trench.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises:

depositing a second undoped silicon oxide layer in the trench having the doped silicate glass fill;

filling the trench with varnish;

removing the varnish, the second undoped silicon oxide layer, the doped silicate glass fill, and the undoped silicon oxide layer in the upper region of the trench;

removing the varnish in the lower region of the trench; and

subsequently increasing temperature to diffuse dopant into the substrate.

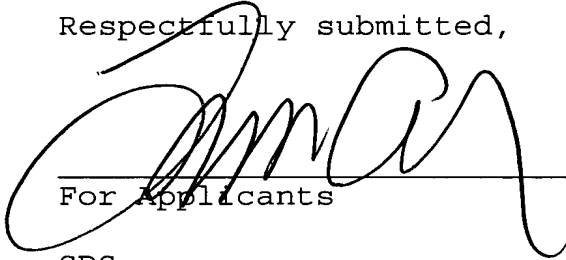
Appl. No. 10/078,997

Amdt. Dated November 6, 2003

Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of Oct 7, 2003

Please charge any fees that might be due with respect to  
Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and  
Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LAURENCE A. GREENBERG', is written over a horizontal line.

**LAURENCE A. GREENBERG**  
**REG. NO. 29,308**

For Applicants

SDS

November 6, 2003

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